

**Buthelezi
indispensable to the
struggle**

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**Diligence competes in
McDonald's
GospelFest**

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CITY NEWS

THE NEW JOURNAL OF CIVILIZATION

**The album the
Grammys forgot**

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**Now the ground war
begins**

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**Real women have
curves**

SEE PAGE 7



**Irvington mayor cites
city's possibilities**

by Peter Jackson

"We can offer our citizens more; I have been assessing each municipal department since last July (1990), and there is more that can be done, reflected Irvington Mayor Michael G. Steele.

Having spent an eight-year apprenticeship within Irvington's city hall before becoming mayor, Steele rose through the ranks starting as an aide and eventually becoming the city's business administrator.

Steele who has concentrated his administration's efforts on



(L. to r.) En Vogue members, Cindy Herron and Maxine Jones; living doll models representing the Shantell Doll Line, Asha, Shantell and Nichelle; En Vogue members Terry Ellis and Dawn Robinson. Story on page 8.

**Quality Education Act
controversy continues**

by Peter Jackson

In New Jersey, as throughout the nation, public school education raises three distinct but interwoven questions: Who should pay for public school education? Should public school education be uniform over the state? How long should it take before these public schools that provide the worst public school education are able to provide the best?

In New Jersey, as throughout the nation, what weaves these three questions inextricably together is an often imperceptible wily filament blend or race, class, and wealth.

In New Jersey, as throughout the nation, the educational pattern, the product of decades and decades of weaving, has produced a relatively small number of educational districts with a disproportionately high number of students, who moreover, show few signs after twelve years of public school attendance of having been educated.

In New Jersey, however, unlike the rest of the nation, the Supreme Court has said that the pattern must change: no longer will wealth and class combine to produce two public school students: one who upon graduation can successfully compete in the labor market and one who cannot.

After reviewing the evidence of the relationship between class, wealth and public school education, the court, in its unanimous decision said, "We find that under the present system the evidence compels but one conclusion: the poorer the district and the greater its need, the less the money available, and the worse the education."

Therefore, because the public school system "is neither thorough nor efficient," the court held that the Public School Education Act of 1975 was "unconstitutional as applied to poorer urban school districts." Finding that "[e]ducation had failed for both the students and the State," the court went on to declare that "the Act must be amended to assure funding of education in poorer urban districts at the level of property-rich districts."

The court also mandated that

**En Vogue Joins Matell to unveil
new African American Doll**

At last Monday's work session, instead of having enough information to place the question of the proposed condo project in the former Maron's building on the agenda for a vote, more answers were needed from the developer.

The developer, Joseph Pardo, submitted to the council last Monday afternoon the financing documents that councilman Frank Steaks asked for two weeks earlier, assuring the council that the

The issue of whether the Plainfield City Council will vote on a \$358,000 state grant to purchase six condos for the handicapped is still up in the air.

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**Plainfield
Rescue
Squad on
the decline**

by Denise Germain

Monday's Plainfield City Council work session revealed some problems with the service that the city's volunteer Rescue Squad has been providing.

The Rescue Squad, which has been serving the community for over 30 years, has had problems with lack of volunteers, out of date equipment and their non-effective management. Service has deteriorated steadily since 1987.

"In 1955 200 volunteers were a part of the squad, now there are 20 active members, of which 7 actually answer calls," public safety officials stated. Sometimes a single person responds to a call which is not an ideal situation.

Neighboring communities have helped pick up the slack for the squad, but these townships can no longer afford to do this because of budget restraints within their own towns and the stretch of their much-needed manpower.

The Rescue Squad, although not run by the city, receives \$20,000 - \$25,000 a year, free gasoline and the city has offered to repair some of their ailing equipment. All of these concessions haven't made it any easier in dealing with the organization.

Jewel Thompson-Chin, City Administrator stated, that the squad

**Plainfield
condo
project
still
unresolved**

by Denise Germain

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**Van Sertima reveals
ancient African
scientific achievements**

by Peter Jackson

"If you're looking for technological achievement, then you don't look in the jungle," Rutgers Professor Ivan Van Sertima told a nearly full 8:00 a.m. congregation at Elmwood United Presbyterian Church.

Van Sertima, much renowned for his investigations of the origin and development of diasporic African cultures, was given a warm reception by the congregation, who sat enthralled by images and incidents that Professor Van Sertima evoked as he refuted Eurocentric world history.

Attending to West African development, Van Sertima explained that over five hundred years ago the Dorgon people danced to pattern which traced the celestial orbit of the star Sirius B, who presence is undetectable by the human eye. Moreover, these same people also identified super nova activity in the vicinity of Sirius B." He also noted with irony the ability of African people hundreds of years ago to make discoveries whose veracity may not be confirmed for many years because the "Hubble telescope went blind staring into the eye of God."



Essex County Prosecutor Herbert H. Tate, Jr. (center) accepting a commendation on being named African American of the Year by the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders as his grandmother, Horlene, proudly looks on. At the presentation at the Newark were (l-r) Essex County Freeholder Larry J. Jones, Jr. and Sara Boat (Tate), (grandmother, Horlene) and Freeholder Maxine Jones.

CITY PEOPLE

UMDNJ Special Vendor Program Exhibit

An exhibit of the many awards received by the pioneering Special Vendor Programs of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) has opened at UMDNJ's Newark campus. Since its inception in 1985, the UMDNJ Special Vendor Programs have been recognized annually for its efforts on behalf of the minority business community. In the photo, Ernestine Watson (right), Newark, N.J., assistant vice president for the UMDNJ-Special Vendor Programs, discusses the display with Fredric Saxe (center), Philadelphia, Pa., UMDNJ's associate vice president for design, engineering and construction, and David Lister, Chester, N.J., UMDNJ's vice president for human resources. Clifton resident Otto Schumacher (center) was recently honored for his service as Chairman of the Passaic County Board of Social Services. Presenting Schumacher with a special award is Incoming Board Chairman Harvey Nutter, ex-Acting Director Mark Schiffer.

Freeholders honor Katherine Kearney Taylor



Newark resident Katherine (Kitty) Victoria Kearney Taylor was honored recently by the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders as one of Newark's outstanding citizens during ceremonies this week dedicated to Black History Month. Taylor, who has dedicated more than 25 years of her life to helping senior citizens, served as the Director of Senior Services for the United Community Corporation for 12 years until her retirement in September, 1988. Following her retirement, she was recruited by Newark Mayor Sharpe James to continue working with senior citizens for the City of Newark, and is the hostess of WMUR radio's "Senior Citizens in Action," which she also produces and directs. Taylor received her B.S. degree from Howard University in June 1967 and also attended Rutgers University (Douglass College) and Paterson Teacher's College. She has served on various commissions and committees, working with the social and economic concerns of seniors on the national, state, county and municipal levels. She was appointed by Governor Kean to serve on the New Jersey State Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Commission; she is an ex-officio member of the Newark Senior Citizens Commission, she serves as a Vice President of the New Jersey State Council of Senior Citizens and appears regularly on television. (Shown: Essex County Freeholder John Jones shown during ceremonies honoring Black History Month with Honoree Katherine Victoria Kearney Taylor of Newark. Ms. Taylor was honored by the Essex Freeholders for her many years of outstanding service to senior citizens.

Ric-Charles gets new director

Jo Ann Richardson-Joubert has been named Artistic Director/Conductor to lead the Ric-Charles Choral Ensemble. Joubert is a native of Portland, Or., and currently resides in East Orange. She has a Master of Music in Piano from the New England Conservatory of Music, and MA and Bachelor of Music in Piano from the Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Wa. Joubert has directed choral activities in the Bethany Baptist Church, Brooklyn; the Abyssinian Baptist Church, Harlem; the Riverside Church in NY and the community Baptist Church in Bayville. Joubert has consulted with the New York City Board of Education, the Boys Choir of Harlem, and the Harlem School of the Arts.

She lectures on provide seminars in the "History of Black Music," "African-American Sacred History" and Black Classical Com-



The New Jersey Inventors Hall of Fame inducted 12 state residents and honored 11 others with the designated Inventor of the Year during recent ceremonies at New Jersey Institute of Technology. Eric Sumner, left, chairman of the Inventors Hall of Fame, and James Blow, Jr., center, executive vice chairman, congratulate Gordon W. Calandann of North Plainfield, right, on his selection as a 1991 Inductee. A pioneer in the emerging technology of high performance liquid crystalline polymers, Calandann invented a family of aromatic thermotropic polymers designed for use in high performance molded parts, fiber and film application for the Hoechst Celanese Corp.

Coping

by

Dr. Charles W. Faulkner



Myths about blacks

Dear Dr. Faulkner:

A couple of weeks ago you wrote two columns about the fact that some white people think that black men are superior to white men — sexually and otherwise. You also said that many black men enjoy being considered sexually superior. My question is: So what? I really don't think that there is anything wrong with black men believing this.

Mr. R., Syracuse, N.Y.

Dear Mr. R.:

A myth is a lie that has been stated so often people actually begin to think it is true, and there are facts to support it. Black sexual superiority is a myth. There is no scientific evidence to support it. This perception has two sides to it. On the one hand, some black males rejoice in their supposed sexual superiority. They have been considered inferior in so many ways, for so many years, that they accept almost any claim of superiority, whether there is evidence to support it or not.

The problem with believing this, or any myth, is that it gives support to other similar myths. If you accept the "good" myth, how can you reject negative myths such as the belief that blacks are intellectually inferior. This is as ridiculous as the belief that black males are sexually superior.

The facts are: 1) Only some white women and some white males actually believe the myth. But you never hear black women say it. Thus, only whites actually benefit from it. 2) The myth is projected and perpetuated by the media in order to give a legiti-

mate reason for viewing blacks as slightly above animals and only semi-civilized. 3) Myths about black people are, for the most part, not created by black people nor intended to benefit black people. 4) Black myths are very seldom positive. Here are some examples of well-traveled myths about black people. They like watermelon, "they are great dancers," "they have a lot of rhythm," "they are great athletes," "they are lazy," "they love soul food," "they are unapologetic," "they are slow thinkers," "they can't reason," "they are highly emotional," "they are hip." I am personally insulted when a person says to me "have a good one." This expression is almost always directed at black people by non-black people.

People who need myths do not know the truth about themselves, or think that the truth is ugly. Myths make you feel good. Temporarily, but they make you lazy.

They give you personal gratification, but not lasting racial pride. If the truth about black heritage were known, there would be no need for myth. If the truth were known, whites would have more respect for blacks, and blacks would have more respect for themselves.

Melvt G. Chambers, in his book *The Black History Trivia Quiz Book*, lists hundreds of major contributions from invention of the gas mask to invention of the air conditioning unit and stop light that blacks have made to improve the lives of all people. Read this book and be proud.

Plainfield Rescue Squad on decline

(Continued from page 1)

at times has been unavailable for hours.

"It has become very clear that the rescue squad is operating in a sporadic fashion."

In 1987, the state mandated more aggressive training requirement such as increasing the training hours to 100 up from 40. This training is more expensive

and time consuming, and thus people are dropping out due to the added strain on their time and their pocket books.

Meetings with the rescue squad management and administration could offer a solution, if the squad is willing to work in good faith, to give the city the medical service it deserves.

Essex Prosecutor honored

Continued from page 1

tory. He graduated from Rutgers University School of Law with a Juris Doctor degree.

While at Rutgers, he was an intern at the U.S. Attorney's Office, a member of Rutgers' Southern Mobilization Legal Intern Project in Greenville, Mississippi, and a part-time law clerk in the Appellate Section of the Essex County Prosecutor's Office under the late Prosecutor Joseph P. Lordi.

Tate served a judicial clerkship with the late Superior Court Judge Van Y. Clinton, and thereafter as an Assistant Prosecutor and Director of the Juvenile Trial Section in the Essex County Prosecutor's Office. He was the first African-American to achieve a supervisory position since the office became full time.

The resolution honoring Tate was sponsored by Essex County Freeholders Sam Bost of Irvington, Leroy Jones of East Orange and Johnny Jones of Newark.



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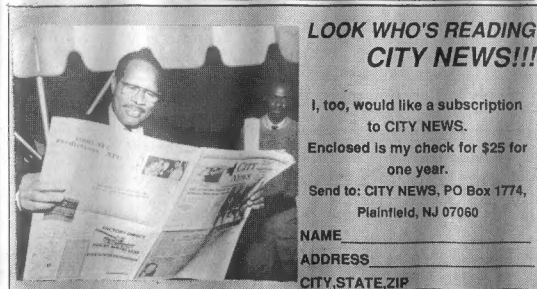
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Honorable Sharpe James,
Mayor

The Newark Private Industry Council, Inc.
Carole Caesar,
Chairperson



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

PLAINFIELD—Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center's Infants class from 7:30-9:30 p.m. For info call 201-668-2353.

TOMS RIVER—The Ocean County College Community Education Department will offer "How to Write an Effective Resume" from 6-8 p.m. For more information, call 908-285-5043.

UNION—Adult Advisory Services' free workshops at 10 a.m. for adults considering entering or re-entering college at Kean College. For information call 201-527-2210.

THURSDAY, MARCH 7

CRANFORD—Union County College will conduct seminars for individuals who are personally involved with military now stationed in the Middle East from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. For information call 709-7079.

JERSEY CITY—"Rise or Shine" workshop is co-sponsored by the Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning and Liberty Science Center from 4 to 6 p.m. in Hagburn Hall. For information call 201-547-3094.

WESTFIELD—"Childhood Memories" will be the topic of the monthly meeting of Women For Women of Union County at 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. For information call 201-232-5787.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

WAYNE—William Paterson College will hold a workshop designed to introduce elementary, secondary and college-level teachers to the techniques used in journalistic writing from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. For information call 201-595-2436.

WAYNE—William Paterson College will hold author Joyce Carol Oates as part of the Distinguished Lecturer Series at 8 p.m. For information call 201-595-2371.

TOMS RIVER—An Individual Model for Energy Management will be presented by Dr. Helen E. Greenleaf at Ocean County College from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. For information call 908-255-5048.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

WESTFIELD—Bonita Craft Grant will conduct a workshop on acquiring, organizing, and preserving local history collections from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the County Annex Building. For information call 908-558-2550.

MONDAY, MARCH 11

PLAINFIELD—The Mothers' Center will host an open house at 10 a.m. at the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church. For information call 908-551-1751.

PLAINFIELD—Plainfield Board of Education Curriculum and Instruction meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Plainfield High School Conference Room.

EAST ORANGE—Ella Wiesel will address the Upsala College community at 12:30 p.m. For information call 201-595-7155.

TUESDAY, MARCH 12

PLAINFIELD—Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center's Infant Care class from 7:30-9:30 p.m. For information call 201-668-2353.

PLAINFIELD—Plainfield Board of Education Finance Committee meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Plainfield High School Conference Room.

CRANFORD—Union County College will conduct seminars for individuals who are personally involved with military now stationed in the Middle East from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. For information call 705-7079.

GLEN RIDGE—The Essex County Branch of The Lupus Foundation of NJ will hold its monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. at Mountsinai Hospital. For information call 201-791-7868.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

EDISON—A free support group for individuals caring for an elderly family member or friend will be held at the JFK Hartweg Adult Medical Day Center. For information call 549-9770.

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

PLAINFIELD—Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center's Infant Care class from 7:30-9:30 p.m. For information call 201-668-2353.

PLAINFIELD—Plainfield Board of Education Executive Session 6:30 p.m. in the Plainfield High School Library.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

UNION—Adult Advisory Services' free workshops at 5 p.m. for adults considering entering or re-entering college at Kean College. For information call 201-527-2210.

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

PLAINFIELD—Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center's Breast feeding class from 7:30-8:30 p.m. For information call 201-668-2353.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

PLAINFIELD—Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center's Infant Care class from 7:30-9:30 p.m. For information call 201-668-2353.

PLAINFIELD—Plainfield Board of Education Policy Committee meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Plainfield High School Conference Room.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

UNION—Adult Advisory Services' free workshops at 10 a.m. for adults considering entering or re-entering college at Kean College. For information call 201-527-2210.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

JERSEY CITY—"Up, Up, and Away" workshop is co-sponsored by the Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning and Liberty Science Center from 4 to 6 p.m. in Hagburn Hall. For information call 201-547-3094.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

UNION—Adult Advisory Services' free workshops at 5 p.m. for adults considering entering or re-entering college at Kean College. For information call 201-527-2210.

TUESDAY, APRIL 15

JERSEY CITY—"Heaven's Above" workshop is co-sponsored by the Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning and Liberty Science Center. This is part of a ten-part series of science workshops for elementary and middle school educators from 4 to 6 p.m. in Hagburn Hall. For information call 201-547-3094.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

UNION—Adult Advisory Services' free workshops at 10 a.m. for adults considering entering or re-entering college at Kean College. For information call 201-527-2210.

Newark Council hosts first woman of African heritage to be elected to the English Parliament

NEWARK—On Wednesday February 27, in a Municipal Council Conference room, President Ralph T. Grant, Jr. hosted a reception for the Honorable Diane Abbott, a member of the English Parliament, and the first woman of African Heritage to be elected to Parliament. Mrs. Abbott, in town for a program with the African American Studies Department at Trenton State College, is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and was honored by her peers at that time. Attending the reception were representatives from the local 14 Chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha in New Jersey, including Soror Dr. Gloria Dickinson the Chairperson of the African American Studies Department at Trenton State, and Soror Moonyene S. Jackson. Council President Grant stated that "Mrs. Abbott is deeply

involved in helping to resolve the tax crisis in England, and has lent her time and talent to making sure that issues surrounding African Heritage and cultural diversity are addressed in her country." In a statement to Dr. Grant, Mrs. Abbott is also described as "one of six members of the lower house of the Black Caucus... and a member who has been in the forefront of the many battles waged against the 'loyal opposition' Mrs. Abbott's Trenton State lecture (held on this past Monday, was on "Black Politics: A British Assessment."

by Daniel Marolon

(NNPA)—The recent parley between Dr. Nelson Mandela and Dr. Mangosuthu Buthelezi did not only help to unite the warring black people of South Africa, and to unite them into a stronger fighting force against the evil of apartheid which holds down all Africans in a state of subjugation. But, equally importantly, the long awaited meeting between the two leading opponents of apartheid also helped to save the liberation movement from losing an eminent political leader of the calibre of Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi has been a prominent fighter

against South Africa's system of racial segregation for most of his adult life. He and Nelson Mandela attended Fort Hare University College together in their youth, and were expelled together from that college by the regime because of their political views which were anathema to the dominant white rulers. And, together, the two young men became members of the ANC and the ANC Youth League. They were never on amicable terms with each other until Mandela was released on February 11, 1991. And no man fought for Mandela's re-

lease harder than Buthelezi. But, since Mandela's release, the two were prevented from meeting by the regime and its apartheid system.

But, thank God, Buthelezi recently stepped forward and met Mandela, expressly to stem the tide of escalating "black-on-black" conflicts which took a toll of 5,000 souls in Natal Province and Southern Transvaal since 1986, and to unite the divided African communities in the country. But, more than that, the meeting between the two strong men, saved the versatile Mangosuthu Buthelezi from relegation into oblivion in the African liberation movement. What people would afford to lose a leader like Buthelezi who has devoted all his life and energies on the door fight against the scourge of apartheid?

Many attributes make Buthelezi an outstanding figure in the world and internal struggle against apartheid...Daily, for forty years on end, he challenged every piece of legislation against the Africans of South Africa that was passed by the white majority regime of Prime Ministers P.W. Botha and F.W. de Klerk. There is no single legislation Mangosuthu did not challenge. In fact, his close monitoring of the regime's machinations from close range made him the regime's most dangerous "spy" — not puppet!

Buthelezi is brave, charismatic and a versatile politician. He is soft-spoken, cautious and a visionary. Ostentation never appeals to him. Nor emotionalism. Born in 1928 of royal parents who descended from famous warrior kings like Dingisizwe and Shaka Zulu, he is charismatic,



Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi photo by Louis Hickman

suave and scholarly. He keeps his Zulu pride, and yet he considers himself an African above everything else...Africans view him with extreme suspicion...But he has great white friends in the U.S.A., Canada and Great Britain.

The Afrikaner regime will never forget him for having halted their "independent homelands policy" when he refused to make KwaZulu an independent homeland, which Transkei, Ciskei, Bophuthatswana and Venda accepted. He saved black South Africa from expulsion from that country's citizenship. I consider this as his greatest contribution to the ongoing struggle. He didn't accept the Bantustanization of KwaZulu, but accepted to lead the people when all South African Blacks were forced to accept Bantustans. He accepted that position in order to monitor the destiny of his people, when the

(Continued on page 8)

Jackson attends breakfast honoring slain Newark serviceman

Former presidential candidate and famed human rights leader, Jesse Jackson recently attended a prayer meeting breakfast held at Newark City Hall in honor of the late, United States Army Private, Robert Talley of Newark. The ceremony honoring Pvt. Talley, who was fatally wounded in the Persian Gulf war by "friendly fire" from an American Apache combat helicopter, was attended by Mayor Sharpe James, members of the Newark Municipal Council and local clergymen, as well as Rev. Benjamin Chavis, Executive Director of the United Church of Christ, Committee for Racial Justice.

Jackson and Mayor James expressed their condolences to the Talley family on the young soldier's death, and called for a speedy end to the fighting to prevent further bloodshed on both sides.

"We must love the troops when they are no longer troops," Jackson said. He added that "the troops are winning the war but we must win the peace for the returning servicemen and servicewomen by improving America, and addressing domestic problems such as the Savings and Loan crisis, drugs, education and minority employment."

Mayor James echoed Jackson's sentiments. "The case of Army Private, Robert Talley, is a tragic one, and one that I hope is not repeated. We must urge the President to not only produce 'smart bombs' capable of destroying destructive power, but we must produce 'smart students' who will one day build our future."

The body was interred at Evergreen Cemetery in Hillsdale, New Jersey. The funeral service for the eighteen-year-old, Pvt. Talley, a Barringer High School graduate who aspired to be a doctor, was held at Newark's Mount Calvary Baptist Church, after the City Hall memorial.

The Newark Board of Education, under the coordination of Rev. Perry Simmons, has established the Pvt. Robert Talley Memorial Scholarship Fund. Those interested in giving to the fund please send donations to Newark Board of Education, Rev. Simmons, President, c/o Office of Affairs, 2 Cedar Street, Newark, New Jersey 07102



Newark Mayor Sharpe James recently re-appointed four members to the Landmarks and Historic Preservation Commission at a swearing-in ceremony: (L-R) Robert Marasco, City Clerk, Timothy J. Crist, Richard Grossklaus, William Chappel, Franette Washington, and Mayor James.

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<input type="checkbox"/> Faultless Cold Pack 10oz. box \$2.09	<input type="checkbox"/> Q-Test Ovulation Test 1 kit \$25.99
<input type="checkbox"/> Q-Test Pregnancy Test double test \$13.99	<input type="checkbox"/> Edge After Shave 4oz. box \$3.69
<input type="checkbox"/> Massengill Feminine Wash Cleansing 5oz. cont. \$2.99	

#1 African-American Newspaper in Metropolitan Newark

EDITORIAL

Liberating our communities

Urban Communities: The Next Theatre of Operations

Now that the Persian Gulf War is at an end, the real ground war begins in the theatre of domestic issues and survival at home. For the last thirty years and more there has been a need to reinvest in our cities and rebuild the spirit for urban Americans. Hopefully, the determination to rebuild the cities and fight the war on poverty and ignorance will be as aggressively fought as the war to bring Saddam to his knees.

We have witnessed beyond a shadow of a doubt the power of the United States to deliver on its promise—"no holds barred" resolutions to achieve a mission. Now it is time to see how the script works on the home front.

President Bush has accomplished a monumental victory in the international "peace-keeping" arena. We should be thankful that many U.S. lives were spared due to the method in which this war was waged. Our military totally annihilated the enemy and the people of Iraq with bombs. Close to the end of the war, one observer said that Iraq had the equivalent of 15 atomic bombs with the same force as those dropped on Japan. Devastation and surrender were inevitable as it should be when one is at war and the goal is to win.

Now on the home front: since we have taken time from our great domestic troubles for the war, hopefully the President will employ the same tactics to eliminate the enemies that have invaded our cities, holding the people hostage through drugs, crime, and poverty. President Bush should unleash the patriot missiles of drug enforcement and intervention to counteract the flow of drugs into the community from which the majority of problems stem. Smart bombs of law enforcement, jobs, and quality education can annihilate the enemy that continues to destroy the people.

The troops returning to the urban cities of America and their families should find the same support as they did in Saudi Arabia, heavy artillery and the will to liberate the urban cities.

Simultaneously, as the urban war is fought, a Marshall Plan to rebuild the cities can be developed for immediate implementation after the victory.

We congratulate President Bush on his ability to reduce the time and casualties of the Persian Gulf War. We now stand ready to support the President as he liberates our communities so that those who fought so bravely for peace in the Gulf can enjoy peace in their communities.

We are interested in hearing your views on issues that are critical to the community. It is important that African-Americans voice their views. Send your comments and letters to:

City News Editorial
P.O. Box 1774
Plainfield, New Jersey 07061

Quote of the Week

I'm fully aware that it will take a massive, cooperative effort on the part of every decent, law abiding citizen of Newark to cause a turnaround.

Ralph Grant
Newark Council President

CITY NEWS

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by Connie Woodruff

He was quiet in office and he's been relatively quiet out of office but former Newark Mayor Kenneth Gibson's popularity with Democratic powers that be is apparently as strong as ever.

Since Gibson's demeanor rarely changes, it's not easy to know what he's plotting, planning or preparing to do next. But whatever it is the Gibson agenda is sure to be interesting.

The current rumor making the rounds in the Hall of Records is that long time Democratic county chair Ray Durkin may not be a candidate for re-election in June.

That again raises a question about the possibility of a black "leader" replacing him in this coveted position.

The fact that County Executive Tom D'Alesio and Mayor Sharpe James are alleged to be "friendly" again seems to bear out the gossip that Sharpe may have an opportunity to name a new county chair and that D'Alesio will be able to fortify Armando Fomaras as Sheriff.

Meanwhile, Judge Clifford Mintz supporters keep beating the drums for him to succeed Prosecutor Herbert H. Tate, Jr. but Tate supporters are not going to give up without a fight.

Last week Tate was honored by the Board of Chosen Freeholders who proclaimed him as "African American of the Year" at public ceremonies followed by a well (politically) staged VIP reception. It was a quiet reminder that Tate is one of the most visible Prosecutors in New Jersey and one of the most popular.

Candidates are gearing up for the April Board of Education election and as usual there are plenty of choices for voters who pay little attention to these important posts.

An NTU member revealed teachers have been in

formed the union has selected two candidates: incumbents Evelyn Williams and Eleanor George.

Williams, a corrections officer and secretary to Democratic county chairman, Ray Durkin, is sure to have the support of party loyalists like NTU and other labor organizations as well as an army of party workers on election day.

George, a resident of the North Ward with close kinship to Fran and Steve Adabato, probably won't have a problem with re-election unless there's a rift among Democratic partisans and that doesn't seem likely in Newark's North Ward.

The third seat (at this writing) is up for grabs and may go to a candidate favored by Mayor James because of his tight grip on a city-wide political machine when it's necessary to show who's the boss in Newark.

Now that the war in the Persian Gulf is behind us (successfully), it's time to get back to worrying about who's getting what politically.

For the next couple of months all eyes (in real life) will be focused on Trenton to see if President Bush is for or about turning over \$15 billion to the 50 states without strings attached for various programs including housing, water and sewer projects, drug enforcement, low-income energy assistance and education.

Big cities like Newark, Camden, Jersey City and Paterson are in need of all of the above and a number of smaller communities have similar needs.

Most city mayors, like Boston's Mayor Ray Flynn, are opposed to the idea. Many believe a conflict will develop between cities' states and see plan cities as a ploy to divide and conquer as we move toward the 1992 presidential elections.

Unfortunately the presidential move comes at a time when states, like cities are facing an unprecedented budget crunch and he who holds the purse strings is usually the guy who controls the action.

New Jersey is among the more fortunate states that have governors familiar with the plight of cities and dedicated to keep them financially afloat.

Of course governors are realistic about the proposal since at least 28 states with huge budget deficits and Puerto Rico would benefit from a \$15 billion largesse.

Representatives whose congressional districts fall within the boundaries of cities are beginning to get special treatment from the folks back home. The Bush program must be approved by Congress and congressional vice-presidents often won and lost where city votes are concentrated.

The chairmanship of the Women's Affirmative Action Committee of the labor-based IUC, doesn't change often but IUC did this year and its new president is Pat Barrows of the Newark Teachers Union. She was elected at the annual WAAC convention in Atlantic City last week.

Pvt. Robert Talley, the 19-year-old Newarker killed in the Gulf War became an overnight celebrity much to the chagrin of those who knew the young man best.

As a Barringer High student (he graduated last June), he was one of the "good kids" in an often troubled neighborhood. Quiet and studious, he joined the ROTC in his junior year and went into the Army shortly thereafter.

According to close friends, Robert didn't join the army because he liked to fight or even because he wanted to get away from home. His long term plan was to earn enough money for college and eventually to become a doctor.

Good paying jobs for a 19-year-old with no skills or education beyond high school are hard to come by. Any branch of the armed services would give him

access to educational benefits at the end of his tour of duty. So this kid with big dreams put his love of gymnastics, football, basketball and karate (which he studied at the North Ward Boys and Girls Club) and the math and science and video games he loved so dearly behind him when he marched off to the Persian Gulf.

Like we said, Robert Talley was an ordinary youth, known best to his classmates in the Barringer High Class of '89.

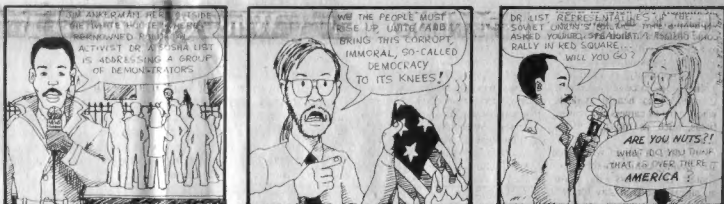
But when he was funeralized at #4, Calvary Baptist Church last Tuesday, some of the brightest and best of the current crop of politicians were on hand to participate at the services.

Reverend Dr. Benjamin Chavis Jr., head of the National Emergency African American Leadership Summit on the Gulf War came to Newark to give "Special Reflection." Mayor Sharpe James offered a testimony from the Calvary Church. Rev. Perry Simmons spoke on behalf of the North Jersey Committee of Black Churchmen, and Eugene Campbell announced the establishment of a scholarship in Talley's memory and Larry Harris of the local Rainbow Coalition added words of comfort to his mother, Deborah Talley and grandmother, LuAnne Monroe and two brothers, William and Ronald Talley.

The "Special Tribute" offered by globe-trotting Rev. Senator Jesse Jackson came as a pleasant surprise. But the most moving of all the tributes was that given by Robert's uncle, an army Staff Sgt. and minister, Reverend Maurice Talley.

As Robert's congressman and an alumnus of Barringer, Congressman Donald Payne gave colorful remarks.

It made one wonder, if Robert Talley had been able to tap just a few of the resources represented by the men of means who eulogized him, would he have had to choose the Army as a means of money to go to college?



Child Watch...

The President is not keeping his promises

by Marian Wright Edelman

President Bush's 1992 federal budget reveals his lack of commitment keeping the promises he made to our children and ignores many emerging crises. In his campaign, his speeches, and legislation he signed last year, the President made serious commitments to our most vulnerable children, but his proposed budget tells an alarmingly different story.

Last year the President signed Head Start reauthorization levels designed to serve all eligible children by 1994 and to improve program quality, but he abandoned this promise by recommending only \$100 million more for 1992. This additional money barely provides enough funds to maintain current services. At the slow rate of the President's proposed increase it would take too many years to give every child a "Head Start."

The President agreed to gradual funding increases over a three-year period for the recently passed child care legislation. But he now recommends that no new child care funds be available until the end of 1992. He is in effect denying children and families an entire year of child care assistance.

In 1990 there were 16 times as many measles cases as in 1983. The President proposes immunization initiative which is an increase over last year's proposal, but is 20 percent less than the levels recommended by the Department of Health and Human Services' own expert advisory committee.

We know the impacts of previous recessions on children are getting worse. The number of the 1970s and 1980s saw an average increase of 750,000 poor children a year. Since growth periods no longer reduce child poverty as much as recessions increase it, America's child poverty rates have been growing and are at levels well above any year in the 1970s. The budget offers no steps to deal with the recession or to reduce child poverty.

The budget falls short of meeting the emerging crises in the child welfare system. There are no funds for new activities to strengthen and preserve families or to prevent or treat child abuse and neglect.

Despite enormous waiting lists and large numbers of uninhabitable public housing units in cities across the country, his budget proposes to end new public housing construction and to cut \$238 million from public housing modernization funds that help rehabilitate existing units to house America's poor families.

The "education" President proposes to abandon much of the federal government role of supporting school improvement for underserved populations, and wants to divert large amounts of resources into efforts to support school choice experiments that will disproportionately benefit middle- and upper-income students.

The budget claims to have an \$8 billion infant mortality program, which is nothing more than the total of estimated spending on

infants that the Administration is obligated to make. Also, this new "targeted" infant mortality initiative is fully funded for 1991 and most of 1992 by reducing the funds of two of the largest maternal and child health service delivery programs for poor and underserved children.

Looking over President Bush's budget it is very clear he has chosen not to invest in our most vulnerable citizens. They cannot survive on promises — they require immediate help.

Who can afford a war?

With or without fisticuffs,
finding a job is tough

by Charles E. Belle

Bush better find something to do with all those services personnel ready to punish President Saddam Hussein of Iraq for the August 2nd invasion of Kuwait. Kuwait's government in exile is sitting on an estimated over \$250 billion. His Excellency Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa Al-Sabah, Minister of Finance, Kuwait, is keeping the influential Commonwealth Club of California and the United Nations Council of Northern California, as well as anyone else who will listen abreast of the filthy rich Al-Sabah family's desire to return to the throne in Kuwait. Help is in the powerful public relations firm of Hill & Knowlton, a wholly owned subsidiary of the

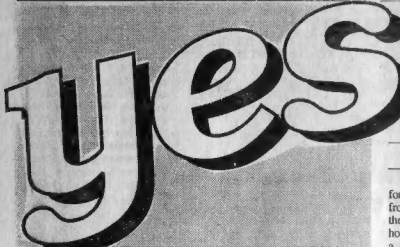
If this country hopes to keep its leadership role in the world, America has to make an important decision. Do we invest in children today, or do we wait until tomorrow? Each day that passes with little commitment from President Bush, the harder it is to reverse the damage children experience, the further education, health care and family support they need to live.

Marian Wright Edelman is president of the Children's Defense Fund, a national voice for children.

No problem at the sold out Terraza restaurant in San Francisco where guests flocked to hear what Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa Al-Sabah had to say. Saddam Hussein did it particularly for economic reasons, partially for political reasons, says the Sheikh. The "Iraqi people have suffered the most," according to the Sheikh. Since he believes that Iraq could have fed its nearly 20 million people with its own wealth 1400 years ago.

(Continued on page 8)

YOUTH / EDUCATION / SUCCESS



Take 6 Visits Arts High, Heads Up District-Wide Essay Competition



"Take 6," the popular all-male a cappella Gospel singers with three Grammys to their credit, encourages young people to cultivate their innate talents and to promote world harmony. Themes stressed by the performers include the importance of persistence, discipline, concern for others, and spirituality.

During their recent visit to Arts High School, the group kicked off a district-wide essay contest being sponsored along with 10th District Congressman Donald Payne. Students are being encouraged to submit essays approximately 500 words in length explaining how they have overcome obstacles in their lives, such as a problem with alcohol or drug abuse, the break-up of a family, a learning disability, or other impediments to success. The contest is intended to benefit students who aspire to careers in creative fields, such as music, writing, acting, or art.

A panel of judges will select six winning entries in the essay contest. The winners will receive an all-expense paid stay for two weeks at a summer camp in Tennessee.

Students interested in the competition should submit their essays to: Take 6 Selection Committee, c/o Congressman Donald Payne, 970 Broad Street, Room 1155, Newark, New Jersey 07102. For further information about the contest, students can call the Congressman's Newark office (201) 645-3213.

"Take 6" created a sensation in the musical world, winning gold record status after sales of their recordings surpassed the 500,000 mark. In addition to three Grammy Awards, they are also recipients of four Dove Awards, two Stellar Awards, distinctions from Black Radio Exclusive, and Soul Train. They were also nomi-

nated for the NAACP Image Award.

The group appeared in the theme for "Brewster Place" and had songs featured on the soundtrack of Spike Lee's "Do the Right Thing" and Warren Beatty's "Dick Tracy." Their first national appearance was on NBC's "Today Show." Since that time, they have been featured on every major television talk show.

ABC'S OF COLLEGE PLANNING

The ABC's of College Planning, a practical guide for students, parents, and guidance and admissions counselors, has recently been published by the New Jersey Association of College Admission Counselors.

The 76-page manual is divided into 15 chapters that deal with information on such topics as goals and values assessment, academic preparation, interview techniques, college application, entrance examination, and admissions requirements, tuition, and financial aid. The publication also contains worksheets, a college planning calendar, and a New Jersey college directory.

Bernice Hornchak, director of recruitment at Jersey City State College, served as executive editor of The ABC's of College Planning.

The publication has been distributed to over 15,000 students throughout New Jersey. Copies of the book may be purchased for \$1.50.

To purchase a book or for further information call Ms. Hornchak (201) 547-3234.

Girl Scout vacation camp opens in spring

Washington Rock Girl Scout Council announces the creation of a special Vacation Camp for girls to coincide with spring vacation. Located at Camp Hoover in Middletown, N.J., the Vacation Camp is scheduled for April 1-6. Both Girl Scout members and non-Girl Scout in grade 1-9 can attend the overnight camp program.

According to Camp Administrator, Peggy Mellors, "The Vacation Camp program will offer a variety of activities including hiking, gymnastics, crafts, sports, campfires, and horseback riding."

Two workshops will be offered each morning from the five worlds of Girl Scouting: Arts, People, Out-Of-Doors, Today and Tomorrow, and Well Being. The afternoon program will include such activities as finding animal tracks along camp trails, learning how to use a compass, or creating

a favorite craft project at Creation Studio. Evenings will include square dancing, a talent show and sing-a-longs.

Overlooking Swartswood Lake, Vacation Camp will utilize the seven modern buildings at Camp Hoover. Experienced adults will supervise the girls who will be divided by age in the large heated chalets equipped with sleeping accommodations and kitchens and bathroom facilities. Two large program buildings provide ample space for varied indoor activities.

Teenage counselors will also be on hand to assist in the program. Girls in grades 10-12 may apply to be a volunteer apprentice counselor.

Further information on Vacation Camp can be obtained by Stating Washington Rock Girl Scout Council at (980) 232-3236.

by Terry Benjamin

Public Enemy was nominated for a Grammy but you can see from the title of this article that they didn't win anything. That honor — best rap performance by a duo or group — went to the group of rappers Quincy Jones assembled for "Black on the Block," a track that featured the combined talents of Ice-T, Melle Mel, Big Daddy Kane and Kool Moe Dee. But because PE has remained true to the street roots of rap they get "crusty" respect from peers, fans, and some critics.

The legend began with "Yo! Bum Rush The Show" and "It Takes A Nation of Millions To Hold Us Back" and now... "Fear of a Black Planet," the most accomplished hip hop album of 1990, a record that firmly establishes PE as the most important and controversial rap group on the current scene.

Front men Chuck D (Charles Ridenhour), Flavor Flav (William Drayton), Terminator X (Norman Rogers) and the recently departed Professor Griff (Richard Griffin) can say without modesty that you can't touch this. Believe the hype, this is the "dope jam," bringing the noise and drowning out all the competition.

These forebears of radical rap previewed the worst of the hard hitting power of "Welcome to the Terrorem":

It's weak to speak and blame somebody else

When you destroy yourself

First nothing's worse than a mother's pain

CAN'T TOUCH THIS

Fear of a Black Planet: The Album the Grammys forgot

"If they can't realize...that rap is a strong, legitimate music, what's the sense of going?"

Chuck D on why his group Public Enemy boycotted the Grammy Awards show

*Crucifixion ain't no fiction
So called chosen frozen
Apology made to whoever pleases
Still they got me like Jesus*

Public Enemy

Welcome to the Terrorem



*Of a son slain in Bensonhurst
Can't wait for the state to decide the fate*

So this jam I dedicate

The stentorian voice of Chuck D also made hits of "Brothers Gonna Work It Out" and "Anti-Nigger Machine." And no listener could forget "Revolutionary Generation." Chuck—D's salute to black womanhood: "Sister (hey) Soul Sister/We goin' be all right/It takes a man to take a stand/Understand it takes a woman to make a stronger man."

But Chuck D is not one to hog the spotlight, especially when he has the crazy as a fox Flavor Flav rapping solo on "Can't Do Nuttin' For Ya Man" and "911 Is A Joke." DJ Terminator X gets a chance to strut his stuff on instrumental tracks that include "Contract On The World Love Jam," "Incident At 66.6 FM," "Leave This Off Your Fu-Kin Charts" and "Final Count of the Collision Between Us."

PE also has the distinction of being included on the sound track

of Spike Lee's movie "Do the Right Thing" with their booming system hit "Fight The Power." Another tune that begs to be included in a movie is the incendiary "Burn Hollywood Burn" that features Chuck D with Ice Cube and Big Daddy Kane.

PE is not afraid to tackle tough social issues like AIDS ("Meet The G That Killed Me") or interracial mating ("Polynacracks"). The group's philosophy is summed up best in the words found on "Reggie Jax":

I'm here to live for the love of my people

Kickin' all about rebuildin' to all the children

Avoid self-destruction

So long I'm gonna do y'all a favor

Cause I got the flavor.

"War At 33 1/3," and "Who Stole The Soul?" deal with the turbulent history of black music in America.

"Fear of a Black Planet," the title track, is most provocative when PE asks the musical question:

Excuse me for the news

I question those accused

Why is this life of Black from White

Influence who you choose?

Because of the abuse heaped upon Public Enemy by media and Jewish groups who call them Anti-Semitic, PE has threatened to stop recording. This would be tragic, but the irony is that although PE may not be on the scene they have influenced so many rappers that the PE flavor will be around for a long time.

PT's clubhouse

Who Are We?

I was born on Saturday, January 19, 1918, in Arkansas City, Arkansas. I founded a multi-million dollar publishing company in Chicago, Illinois. In 1942, I started the *Negro Digest*. After this success I began *Ebony* magazine, a monthly picture magazine, and *Jet*, a weekly news magazine. My wife manages a cosmetic subsidiary of my company. I have written the story of my life, or autobiography, called *Succeeding Against the Odds*. My magazines emphasize the achievements of African Americans.

WHO AM I?

I was born April 4, 1928, in Saint Louis, Missouri. I was nominated for a Tony award for writing and a Pulitzer for poetry. I was the first black director in Hollywood. I have written, produced, directed, and starred on the stage, in films, and television.

WHO AM I?

Question: What is an autobiography?

Old Business:

Answers to the February 27's P.T.'s Clubhouse.

WHO ARE WE?

> Marcus Garvey and Katherine Dunham

WORD SCRAMBLE

> spring, wind, lion, Aquarius, kite, lamb, Easter, pisces

New Business:

Congratulations, spelling bee winners!

Quiz Bowl gets competitive juices flowing

PLAINFIELD — The competitive juices were flowing as Washington and Clinton schools were pitted against each other during the Interscholastic Quiz Bowl hosted by Henry Thompson, Principal, Washington Elementary School, 10:00 a.m., February 21, 1991.

Dr. Annette Kearney, Superintendent of Schools was in attendance along with the distinguished Mrs. Adam Clayton Powell Jr. (Isabel Powell), Dr. Ronald Frye, Supervisor of Reading Skills, and Gloria Williams, Principal, Clinton Elementary School, were in attendance.

The teams consisted of members of the 5th and 6th grades of both schools. Jackie Brooks-Dennis coached for Washington and Kathleen Craft coached for Clinton. The students were: Lakecia Brown, Tanesha Edwards, Duwanda Hocker, Jeffrey Morgan, Captain, Mauricio Campino, Alternate from Washington School. Ronald Bronson, Captain William Mitchell, Melissa Thomas, Delbert Townsend, Se-maria Williams, Alternate represented Clinton School. Chaperones for Clinton were Linda Morton and Michael Travis.

The competition was divided into 7 rounds which consisted of: African-American History, Africa, Civil Rights Political Activism, Literature, Sports Entertainment, Scientist Inventors, Pop/culture.

Ruth Wise, Learning Disability Teacher Consultant (LDTCC) was the Moderator, Barbara Johnson, Washington, was the Timekeeper, Arlie Smallwood, Guidance Counselor, Plainfield High School acted as Scorekeeper, while the Judges were Sandra Dabney, Guidance Counselor, Washington, and Sherman Edmonds, Guidance Counselor, Clinton.

The winner of the competition was Clinton Elementary School and a trophy was presented to Williams by Edward Long, President, Chapter 51, The Retired Enlisted Association, Inc.

The event was sponsored by Chapter 51, The Retired Enlisted Association, Inc., with cooperation of Frontiers International. Other Sponsors include: American Legion Post 219, V.F.W. Post 7474, Mohawk Lodge #307, Douglas Temple Masonic Lodge and Columbia Avenue Block Association. Sandra Fragar, Washington Elementary School, Videotaped the event.

Congratulations are in order to both teams for a job well done. Chapter 51, The Retired Enlisted Association will sponsor a trip to the Baltimore Inner Harbor in May 1991 for both teams as an added incentive for the continuance of excellence in academics.

This Interscholastic Quiz Bowl will be an annual event to encompass the other Elementary

Schools in Plainfield with the trophy being awarded to the winner. The school winning the competition 3 years running — the trophy will remain in that school permanent.

Future quiz bowls will consist of African-American History, Science, Mathematics, Literature, Current Events, Sports, and Pop/culture.



Plainfield Superintendent of Schools Dr. Annette Kearney (2nd from r.) with students from Clinton School.



Plainfield Superintendent of Schools Dr. Annette Kearney (2nd from r.) with students from Washington School.

RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, MARCH 7

MORRISTOWN—Bethel AME Church will host the Morris County Black Coordinating Committee regular meeting at 7 p.m. For information call 201-584-5399.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

PLAINFIELD—First Unitarian Society will offer a joint Lenten retreat and workshops exploring meditation and prayer, the Bible; Women's Spirituality, etc. For information call 201-756-0750.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

DUNELLEN—Dunellen Methodist Church will hold a Flea Market from 10 to 4 p.m. For information call 908-370-1628.

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

LINCROFT—First Unitarian Society will hold "Vespers For Peace" services at 4 p.m., 1475 West Front Street. For information call 201-756-0750.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

NEW YORK—McDonald's Gospel-Fest preliminaries at First Church of God in Harlem. For information call 212-527-8800.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

NEW YORK—McDonald's Gospel-Fest preliminaries at Calvary UFW Baptist Church in Brooklyn. For information call 212-527-8800.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

NEW YORK—McDonald's Gospel-Fest preliminaries at First Church of God in Queens. For information call 212-527-8800.

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

SUMMIT—First Unitarian Society will hold "Vespers For Peace" services at 4 p.m., 4 Walden Avenue. For information call 201-756-0750.

SATURDAY, MAY 18

NEW YORK—McDonald's Gospel-Fest semi-final competition at Antioch Baptist Church on West 125th Street in Harlem. For information call 212-527-8800.

SUNDAY, MAY 19

PLAINFIELD—First Unitarian Society will hold "Vespers For Peace" services at 4 p.m., 724 Park Avenue. For information call 201-756-0750.

SUNDAY, JUNE 16

PRINCETON—First Unitarian Society will hold "Vespers For Peace" services at 4 p.m., 50 Cherry Hill Road. For information call 201-756-0750.

FRIDAY, JUNE 14

NEW YORK—McDonald's Gospel-Fest competition and concert at Carnegie Hall. For information call 212-527-8800.

McDonald's Annual GospelFest competition to begin in Newark

NEW YORK—Over 200 gospel groups from New York, New Jersey and Connecticut will have the opportunity to lift their voices, sing and gain recognition when they take part in McDonald's Gospel-Fest, a program presented in conjunction with radio stations WBS-FM and WURL-AM in celebration of the music's rich tradition.

The preliminary round of competition will kick off at Abyssinian Baptist Church in Newark Saturday, March 12, noon and 7 p.m., hosted by the Jenkins Brothers, recording artists and winners of GospelFest '86.

The competition at Abyssinian Baptist Church marks the culmination of McDonald's tri-state area search for outstanding gospel talent as the seventh annual GospelFest competition gets underway.

Other preliminaries are scheduled for Saturdays March 23, April 6 and 20 at Antioch Baptist Church in Harlem, Calvary UFW Baptist Church in Brooklyn and First Church of God in Christ in Queens, respectively.

Winners of the preliminaries will advance to the semi-final competition to be held on Saturday May 18 at Antioch Baptist Church on West 125th Street in Harlem. From the semi-finals, winning groups will go on to the exciting final competition/concert, scheduled for Friday, June 14 at New York City's historic Carnegie Hall. The concert will also feature some of the gospel music's brightest stars. Proceeds from the evening will benefit the United Negro College Fund.

"McDonald's is proud to help keep the legacy of gospel alive through GospelFest, the most eagerly awaited gospel event in the tri-state area," said Lee Dunham, McDonald's restaurant owner and President of the Tri-State Restaurant Owners Association.

In addition to the chance to sing on the great stage at Carnegie Hall, groups will compete for valuable prizes and other exciting opportunities, such as an appearance on the "Bobby Jones Show," a

gospel program on Black Entertainment Television (BET).

McDonald's sponsorship of GospelFest is a part of the quick-service restaurant chain's commitment to giving something back to

the communities in which it conducts business. Since its inception in 1985, GospelFest has attracted nearly 1,500 gospel groups ranging in size from seven to 200 members.

Diligence and Shekina present Pre-Easter Concert

NEW BRUNSWICK—The Diligence Gospel Music Ministry and the Shekina Contemporary Christian Music Ministry present, "He Is Risen!," a Pre-Easter concert celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ the Lord. This event takes place Saturday, March 9, 7:30 p.m., at the Zion Hill Baptist Church, 450 Highland Avenue in Piscataway, New Jersey. Admission is open to the public and a free will offering is requested.

Formerly known as "Spiritual Choice," the Diligence Contemporary Gospel Music Ministry, was founded in 1985. In 1986, the current name was suggested by former vocalist Christopher Johnson, who thought "diligence" denoted commitment, dedication and fervency. Founder, lyricist and lead vocalist Andre Flax is the originator of all the group's music, along with keyboard artist Melvin Burgette, who is co-composer and arranger.

The music of Diligence can best be described as contemporary gospel flavored with a hint of jazz, reggae and rap. The messages in songs like "Shekina Glory," "Once You've Been Touched by the Spirit," "Giving my Life Back to You," "Turn Away From Sin" and "I Will Never Leave You" minister directly to the soul. Flax's unique lyrical talent has been likened to that of the Bible's Old Testament



Diligence Gospel singers shown above will also be participating in the McDonald's GospelFest.

psalmists. "Well, if that's true, to God be the glory!" Flax said modestly. "God has blessed me with songwriting ability and He has used Diligence as a means of ministry to the people." "I thank God for the inspiration," Flax said.

In addition to Flax and Burgette, Diligence also consists of vocalists Warren D'Addario, Tamika Watson and Deatha Williams, drummer Benjamin Becker, Jr. and lead guitarist Henry Terrell.

The Shekina Contemporary Christian Music Ministry, also

founded in 1985 by keyboard artists Vernon Byrd and Ira Sanders, saxophonist Philip Wilson. In addition, the group also consists of vocalists Ramona Brackett, Donna Alston and Michael Eubanks. All members are actively involved in their local churches, serving as ministers and officers.

Both Diligence and Shekina will feature a variety of instrumental and vocal musical selections, from worship and praise songs to traditional and contemporary Gospel. For information call 201-923-8052.

Calvary Baptist's Couples Club celebrates Black History Month

by Freddie Robinson

PATERSON—During Black History Month at Calvary Baptist Church in Paterson the Couples Club of the church held its annual luncheon and an art exhibit, with a singular Black History Month theme. Calvary Baptist Couples Club has been in existence many years and its annual luncheons continue to be a look-forward-to presentation.

Moreover, for the hundred or so guests, there was a spiritually enhancing moment soon after Calvary's pastor, Rev. Albert P. Rowe, introduced the guest speaker, Rev. Michael Neighbors, First Baptist Church, Princeton, N.J. Rev. Neighbors' speech was entitled "Who Are We, and Whose Are We?" Given in an Afro-centric perspective, his remarks concerned a pervasive perception of a socio-political regression thwarting the quality of life in African-American communities across the country. And with remarks thematically

aimed at a generation of black males, he observed that a critical need of many males is to focus on and to claim an identification within God's cosmos than toward a philosophy that denies God's existence, inviting too soon certain self-destruction. Clear sighted and timely to the audience, the speech was received with punctuated applause and amen.

Tell me, have you seen them?



Let the Newark Public Library know how to reach members of the Four Rose Gospel Singers shown in this photograph taken in 1965.

Elc-Charles Choral Ensemble
Jo Ann Richardson-Joubert,
Artistic Director/Conductor

Presents
A Musical Tribute to
Charles E. Evans, Co-Founder

Saturday, March 9, 1991
7:30 P.M.

Plainfield High School Auditorium
950 Park Avenue
Plainfield, NJ

The Choir will be performing Sacred and
Secular Choral music by
African-American Composers

Guest Musicians

Roland Carter, Composer/Conductor
Deborah Ford, Soprano
Gary Taylor, Accompanist
Marilyn Thompson, Soprano

For further information,
call (908) 754-DCCE

NEW JERSEY STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS
Department of Cultural Affairs

Woman's History Month Programs

MARCH 6: "March is Women's History Month" kickoff campaign; sponsored by East Orange Committee on the Status of Women, East Orange City Hall Council Chambers; 5-7 p.m. Connie Woodruff, Chair, N.J. Commission on the Status of Women, speaker.

MARCH 6: Swearing-in of George Hampton as president for Community Relations & Development, UMDNJ, as President, Newark Collaboration Group.

MARCH 9: Annual Crispus Attucks Luncheon, sponsored by Essex County Civic Club, 12 noon at Quality Inn, Newark.

MARCH 23: Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Gamma Omicron Zeta Chapter, Finer Womanhood Observation Luncheon, featuring actress Ruby Dee, 12 noon, Quality Inn, Newark.

MARCH 23: Sixth annual Women's Conference sponsored by Concerned Community Women of Jersey City, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Hudson County Vo-Tech School, 485 Montgomery St., Jersey City, Workshops and Luncheon.

Tax workshop for Plainfield senior citizens

There will be a workshop at the Plainfield Senior Citizen center to help city residents fill out their state income tax form to get a tax rebate. It is designed for people who are only filing for their rebate. The workshop will be given on Wednesday, March 6, 1991 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

In order to participate one must meet certain qualifications. Participants must either rent an apartment or own a home. Total income (pensions, earnings, interest, dividends, etc.) may not exceed the limits listed not including social security.

Income limits vary. If you are under 62 income (excluding social security) may not be over \$3,000.00. Aged 62-65 and filing a joint return: \$7,600.00. Single \$6,100.00. Over 65 and filing a joint return \$10,200.00 and Single \$9,500.00.

Participants must bring all W-2's, 1099's, etc. To show how much income they have received. Homeowners should bring a tax bill, tenants bring the name and address of landlord; also last year's income tax report (1989) if filed.

To register for this workshop, please phone the center at 753-3306 or stop in at 305 East Front Street and sign up for the program. There will be no charge. This program was arranged through the cooperation of the AARP tax project coordinated by volunteer Herb Thompson of Scotch Plains.

To an awed audience he add, "300 years before Christ, Africans had built an astronomical observatory and... African civilization traveled down the Nile, from Nubia, north to Egypt, and not the reverse as Western historians would have it."

Perhaps, the lecture's most unexpected citation was when the professor told the story of how British physicians visited Africa to learn how to perform a Caesarean operation and how to control infections by the use of antiseptics.

Comparing the Ronald Reagan John Wayne romanticizing of the annihilation of Native Americans and the Europeanizing of the Americas to the Arabizing of Egypt, Van Sertima stated that "now it falsely appears that Arabs and Egyptians and Europeans are Americans."

Finally, looking towards a future world, Van Sertima stated that "equality requires a new vision: not just one type, one race, one system, but all are required for equality."

Condo project still unresolved

(Continued from page 1)

financial issues were in order. A major project obstacle is the lack of parking at the site. At the last meeting between Pansoda and the council, Pansoda stated that he was currently dealing with Economic Director Marcus Dasher for the possible leasing of parking spaces at the adjacent municipal lot. The parking lot in question, Lot 6, one of the busiest lots in the area, is already being used by other businesses and shoppers. Parking is critical in that area and the possibility of one building's residents and/or tenants leasing a majority of the spaces is not acceptable. Tenants and local area business have been continuously denied parking permits in that lot. With an ever-increasing shortage of parking, this proposal will add more fuel to an already burning fire.

Dasher, stated at the session that he did discuss the issue with the developer, but for not more than two minutes.

Van Sertima reveals ancient African technological achievements

(Continued from page 1)

Returning to his leit motif, Van Sertima chastised Eurocentric history for "comparing the worst of Africa to the best of Europe. Medieval Mali, a West African civilization, was as large as Europe, but there were no jungles. If you visit the outlying areas of Europe, you will find people living without indoor toilets, but it is not these people upon whom you judge the advances of European society." Hring the congregation emotionally into his discourse, he continued, "the European went to the wrong place looking for math, he went to the bush; but who needs mathematics in the bush? who needs math to cut down trees?"

"Once a Yoruba complained, 'I am a mathematician, but I did not learn about ancient black mathematics when I studied.' why not? he asked. 'Because your mind was manufactured in Europe,' he was told." Van Sertima told a laughing audience.

Relating the Yoruba's failure to know the brilliance of his own culture to the failure of Africans to know the brilliance of theirs, the professor explained how he was able to contract with NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) to provide copies of his book Blacks in Science: Ancient and Modern to the one thousand blacks who work in NASA's space program.

Saying that is "always darker before the dawn," Van Sertima sees recent discoveries in Africa as augers of a "new day" for African peoples. Among the discoverers that he sees as most significant is the 1978 discovery of a steel smelting site in Tanzania. "What is so remarkable about the site," according to Professor Van Sertima, "is the fact that smelting took place at a temperature 200 degrees above the temperature used by the most advanced European civilization. Moreover, the Africans were producing steel using less wood and coke than was used in European

CITY LIFE

Genesis 1991 Festival Features new and established voices in African American Theatre

'Real Women Have Curves' debuts in Newark

NEW BRUNSWICK — Internationally renowned playwright, poet and novelist Ntozake Shange (*colored girls...*), award-winning actress Danitra Vance (Spunk, *The Colored Museum*) and the innovative Brewery Puppet Troop are among the new and established voices in African American theatre who will showcase their latest works-in-progress during Crossroads' Genesis 1991 festival next month.

Now in its second year, Genesis 1991: A Celebration of New Voices Acrossroads will feature a week and a half of staged readings of new plays, together with community and family-oriented events that celebrate the creation of new works by African Americans in the performing arts. It will

run from March 13 through March 24, with 10 events scheduled.

Conceived and coordinated by Crossroads' Literary Manager Sydney Mahone, the festival offers audiences insight into the play development process through the presentation of minimally staged performances and script-in-hand readings. The events are followed by discussions with the playwrights, providing an opportunity for audience participation in the process.

Genesis 1991 will open on March 13 with staged selection from *The Love Space Demands*, a forthcoming book of poetry by Ntozake Shange, author of the 1976 internationally acclaimed play, *for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf*. Shange will present her work, accompanied on guitar by New Brunswick-born and raised musician Billy "Spaceman" Patterson. Talvin Wilks will direct. *The Love Space Demands* will be presented at 8 p.m., March 13, 15 and 16.

Oak and Ivy, the story of the 19th-century poets, Paul Laurence Dunbar and Alice Nelson-Dunbar, by Kathleen McGhee-Anderson, will have a staged reading at 8 p.m., Thursday, March 14. Andre Robinson Jr., Crossroads' general manager, will direct.

Life During Wartime, written by Wesley Brown, a professor at Rutgers University and author of the award-winning play, *Boogie Woogie* and *Booker T.*, will be presented on Wednesday, March 20 at 8 p.m. Inspired by the 1983 death of graffiti artist, Michael Stewart, at his hands of police in New York City, the plays looks at violence against black youth and the impact of their deaths on society.

Spook, Secret Scott, who directed Spooks in 1989 and appeared in last year's Genesis festival at Crossroads, will direct.

Actress Danitra Vance, who last appeared at Crossroads in Spunk and recently was in the television presentation of *The Colored Museum* on PBS will present an original performance piece entitled *Danitra Live*, and in *Color* at 8 p.m., Thursday and Friday, March 21 and 23. Vance's piece will be heavy on satire, presented in a talk-show format with the author portraying the guest, host and audience. Shelby Jiggett, Literary Associate at Crossroads, will direct.

The life-size Brewery Puppet Troupe, one of the country's few African American puppet ensembles, will present *Little Davis*, a Fantasy in Jazz for children and adults inspired by the jazz trumpeter, Miles Davis. Two performances are scheduled for 3 and 7 p.m., Saturday, March 23.

Rounding out Genesis 1991 will be *New Jazz*, New Brunswick, a community event featuring trumpet player Leslie Ford, co-founder of the New Brunswick Jazz Collective, at 3 p.m., Sunday March 17. The program incorporated "The Jazz History Workshop" designed to introduce young audiences to jazz. The workshop chronicles the progression of jazz from its African roots through the present. The second part of the program features original music by jazz artists from the New Brunswick area including Leslie Ford, Radam Schwartz, John Bionelli and Jeanie Bryson.

"The focus of Genesis remains on the word" rather than the production, and "on the total artist," not just the performer, according to Crossroads' co-founder and

Producing Artistic Director Ricardo Khan. It reflects the company's continuing dedication to providing opportunities for artistic discovery both for artists and audiences.

"The participation of new and established artists in Genesis is an affirmation of Crossroads' role as a laboratory for important new theatrical work," says Khan.

Genesis is supported in part by a \$150,000 grant received by the Literary Department last year from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The three-year grant provides support for artists, workshops and marketing associated with development and promotion of the festival.

Funding also is made possible in part by the New Jersey State Council of the Arts.

Tickets to all Genesis events are \$7. Seats are unreserved. To purchase tickets, call the Crossroads Box Office at (908) 249-5560.

CITY NEWS

we're #1

GEA controversy continues

(Continued from page 1)

"such funding cannot be allowed to depend on the ability of local school districts to tax; that such funding must be guaranteed and mandated by the State; and that the level of funding must also be adequate to provide for the special educational needs of these poorer urban districts in order to redress their extreme disadvantages."

Thus, the court held that the rich and the poor have to receive the same funding level of education and that the tax base of poor districts cannot support higher levels of education funding. Moreover, the state is required to guarantee that the poor districts receive higher funding levels.

Noting that "[t]he funding mechanism is for the Legislature to decide," and acknowledging that the legislature "may devise any remedy, including one that completely revamps the present

system...so long as it achieves a thorough and efficient education," the court, nonetheless, sketched what the funding allocation might accomplish based upon the 1989-1990 budget.

Using data from the twenty-eight poorer urban districts, the court estimated that those districts would have to spend an additional \$440 million to provide redress of educational disadvantages and the same quality of education as the rich districts provide.

Hence, had the legislature decided to follow the court's example, and had the legislature up-dated the funding allocation estimates to reflect 1990-1991, then legislation could have been enacted which would have guaranteed "equality in funding within

the first year. Almost as importantly, the methods used to allocate educational funds across districts might have been less ob-

trays the Sister, Anna. Two other dressmakers are played by Lisa Sanchez and Sonia Rodriguez. The characters are fashioned after the authors' relatives and herself.

The production is directed by Susana Tubert, an Argentinean native who has been associated with the Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre in New York and is also an actress and playwright. Tubert has been quoted in talking about the play: "In high comedy style, the relationships unfold over five days when the women are practically living with each other. Women throughout history have shown evidence of being very strong under extreme situations. I am trying to bring out the admirable and identifiable qualities these women possess: loyalty, camaraderie, loving, risk-taking. All the women are endearing — no matter what their size or shape."

The playing schedule is Thursday and Friday, March 7 & 8 at 8 p.m., Saturday, March 9 at 3:30 and 8 p.m., and Sunday, March 10 at 2:30 and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15. All seats, all performances. Reservations and sales at Newark Symphony Hall Box Office: 201 643 4550 or TicketMaster: 201 507 8900.

The two major sources of irrationality that would have QEA repealed and replaced by Lynch-Dalton are the teacher pension burdens and property-tax relief.

As explained by Senator Ronald L. Rice (D-Essex), "[w]e passed the bill [QEA] knowing that some foundation had to be laid legislatively to start... addressing the disparities in property taxation and education."

On the other hand, no one has adequately explained how property-tax relief and quality education became legislatively linked.

(Continued on page 10)

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BILLBOARD

THURSDAY, MARCH 7

NEWARK—Kimberly Berry will be the star attraction at First Thursday Jazz Series at Symphony Hall from 8-9 p.m. For information call 643-4550.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

PLAINFIELD—Rico Charles Clark Ensemble will be featured at Musical Tribute to Charles E. Evans, Co-Founder at 7:30 p.m. at the Plainfield High School Auditorium. For information call 908-754-RCCE.

PLAINFIELD—The Plainfield Adult School trip to see Denon Brazil at Montclair Sea Village. Bus leaves at 6:45 p.m. For information call 201-753-8252.

WESTFIELD—The Westfield Symphony Orchestra presents Beethoven's Violin Concerto at the Presbyterian Church. For information call 201-223-9400.

NORTH BRANCH—The Famous People Players will appear at 3 and 8 p.m. at Plainfield Valley Community College. For information call 725-4300.

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

WAYNE—Composer and performer Benny Golson brings his quartet to the William Paterson College Jazz Room Series at 4 p.m. in Shea Center. For information call 201-955-2371.

NORTH BRANCH—The Theatre of Illusion will be presented at 4:30 p.m. at Plainfield Valley Community College. For information call 725-4300.

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

EAST ORANGE—An art show and Auction sponsored by the Upstate College Alumni Association. Works by Rodwell, Duff, Chagall, Miro and Matisse at 6 p.m. For information call 201-256-7165.

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

NEW BRUNSWICK—The George Street Playhouse presents a special award winner *Estelle Parsons* in the title role of "Forgiving Tyrone" May 19. For further information call 201-527-9237.

MONDAY, MARCH 18

UNION—Trumpet Master Wynton Marsalis will be performing in the Wilkes Theatre of Keen College at 8 p.m. For information call 201-527-9237.

RAHWAY—The legendary Ink Spots will appear at the Union County Arts Center at 8 p.m. For information call 201-499-9228.

SUNDAY, MARCH 24

PLAINFIELD—A Young Artist Concert will be performed at the Plainfield Public Library at 3 p.m. on West Eighth and Park Avenue in Plainfield. The program is free of charge.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

PLAINFIELD—The Plainfield Adult School trip to see *Fiddler on the Roof* in Broadway. Bus leaves at 6:30 p.m. For information call 201-753-8252.

NEW YORK—Crossroads Theatre Company will bring its acclaimed 1990 production of *Black Explores to the Marketplace* Theatre Club through May 17. For information call 201-249-5561.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

KEYPORT—The Kingston Memorial Club presents the Greatest Show in Town with the world's greatest showman Larry O'Neill. Also appearing are Valerie Adams, Sam Merritt, Duke and Ms. Lucille. Show times 10 and 12 p.m. at Majors Lounge, 215 Atlantic Street. Tickets in advance \$10 at the door \$12. Contact any Kingston member for information.

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

PLAINFIELD—The "It's a Small World" Kings Daughters Day School photo exhibits open at the Plainfield Public Library.

PLAINFIELD—The Arlene Spring Concert will be performed at the Plainfield Public Library at Park Avenue and West Eighth Street. Admission is free.

RADIOSCOPE...THE COLUMN

TOP STORIES: KEITH SWEAT—R&B'S NEWEST SEX SYMBOL? NENEH CHERRY TIES THE KNOT VANILLA ICE PENS AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY GREGORY HINES TAKES TO THE SILVER SCREEN!

From Bailey Broadcasting Services Via Serra Syndication

Keith Sweat—R&B's Newest Sex Symbol? When Keith Sweat's "I'll Give All My Love To You" album came out, people said it sounded like his last one, the triple platinum "Make It Last Forever." Apparently that didn't matter to Keith's fans because his album has gone platinum and spawned three top selling singles. And if you scratch beneath the musical surface Keith says you'll find a heartfelt message underneath. Right now Keith Sweat is cross-country on the "Triple Threat" tour with Bell, Biv, DeVoe, and Johnny G. With that kind of high powered musical talent all on one tour it could be easy for somebody to get lost in the shuffle...but it won't be Keith! He says he's got his own identifiable sound that sets him apart. And the fact that he sings a lot about relationships is not unusual...it's that's good material for any singer. But he says there's more to his album than just love songs. There's a whole theme about the nitty gritty ups and downs of being in love...all told from a man's point of view. The ladies in the audience may be screaming like crazy, but Keith's talking to the fellas! Since his 1988 debut album "Make It Last Forever" launched his career with the single "I Want Her" Keith's been on a non-stop roll. But Keith still remembers the early days when he worked as a lead singer with a group named Jamilla...but that also featured Alyson Williams. After leaving Jamilla, success came quickly...it was the only thing that Keith refused to believe it. His album was selling like hotcakes but he kept his day job working as a stock broker's assistant on Wall Street, until "I Want Her" went platinum. Today, two back-to-back platinum albums and a big following among the ladies is guaranteed to keep this young star on the charts...From the PP&T (People, Places & Things) File: Sassy Neneh Cherry who's "Raw Like Sushi" album produced the hit "Buffalo Stance" was recently married. The singer tied the knot with Cameron McVey, also known as "Booga Bear." She and Booga Bear have been a longtime pair both in and out of the studio. Booga is the father of her second child Tyson...Rapper Vanilla Ice is going to catch a chill from overexposure if he doesn't slow down. He's cashing in on hype surrounding his new found celebrity by writing his autobiography...at just 22 years of age! He says this book will tell the true story of Vanilla Ice and his alter ego, Robby Van Winkle. Depending on how much he enhances his real life, this book is sure to be more on the line than a love story. Hummm...wonder if Alpha-half brother and blind date are going to be it. If you want to find out the book is due out this month...Gregory Hines has hung up his tap dancing shoes and strapped on a gun in the movie "Eve of Destruction." Hines plays Colonel Jim McQuade an agent sent out to destroy a robotic evil clone. Hines says action is what attracted him to this part. For years Hines made his living as a tap dancer. He got his break in 1981 in the film "History of the World—Part I" and has worked steadily since. But it wasn't his acting that got him in shape for "Eve Of Destruction" he says it was his dancing background. In one climactic scene Hines has to jump out of the way of a runaway train. He says pulling that stunt was no sweat. The conductor must have been on it, because Gregory survived and went on to his next film "A Rage in Harlem." It's due to hit theaters in April...Feedback Line: Just what does L.A. of the mega-producing team of L.A. and Babyface, actually do? That's what Michael Parker from Anacapa, LA wanted to know. Well, we knew someone would ask this question sooner or later, but the producing team of L.A. Reid and Babyface is just that...a team. Babyface may appear to outshine L.A. because he's a singer, and has a higher profile, but no one should discredit L.A.'s contributions. Both of these guys are talented and each brings something unique to the project. That's why they're still partners, and successful ones too! Got a question or a comment on any RadioScope story, just call the Feedback Line at (213) 257-2354.

CITY BUSINESS

Mattel unveils new African American Doll

Grammy Nominees, En Vogue, were celebrity models at Mattel's premiere of a new line of African American fashion dolls at a "Fashion Tribute to African American Designers" on opening day of the American International Toy Fair.

The star-studded event, hosted at the popular Stringfellow's restaurant and club in New York

City, featured a fast paced, glittering fashion show produced with commentary by Audrey Smalls and The Ground Crew. Apparel by such well known designers as Gordon Henderson, Betsy Gonzalez, Michael McCollum for Isiah NYC and Constance Saunders were worn by celebrity models former Miss America, Suzette Charles, Harlem

Globetrotter team member, Sandra Hodge, En Vogue and top runway models.

The dolls will be marketed under the signature name of the lead doll, SHANI, a Swahili word meaning "marvelous." Three characters, SHANI, ASHA and NICHELLE are part of the line. Each doll is realistically sculpted from head to toe to reflect the

natural beauty of African American women.

The highlight of the event was the presentation of "living fashion dolls" who came on stage dressed in costumes by Mattel's principle designer, Kitty Black Perkins.

"Shani" dolls will be marketed through Johnson Publishing Company.

Irvington mayor cites city's possibilities

(Continued from page 1)

by block redevelopment, will be sufficient to eliminate much of unproductive housing in Irvington.

The mayor is also in the first of his four phase school program.

In the fall of 1991, we will be breaking ground on Montgomery Avenue for an elementary school: kindergarten through sixth grade. We have half the land and expect the school to be completed by 1993.

Also on the city's possibilities list are separate proposals with St. Barnabas and Beth Israel to provide health care services to Irvington General Hospital. The mayor hopes that if either St. Barnabas or Beth Israel affiliates with Irvington General that the services to the community will increase and perhaps reduce the

financial and medical strain that is being put on the city's health clinic, which is located in the basement of city hall.

Thus between now and 1993, the citizens of Irvington should be looking for improved police services, increased rehabilitation of their housing stock, improved medical care, and a new elementary school.

"Drug traffic and juvenile illegal activity are linked. With aggressive patrolling, which includes Monday through Friday curfew checks, does have an impact. Yet we can't do it all, and we don't get the response we need from either the courts or the parents.

"Senator [Ronald L.] Rice has introduced a boot camp bill [s893] which would send youth offenders to work camps far away

from urban areas. I support the bill 200 percent."

Reviewing the city's housing development efforts, the mayor is enthusiastic. Describing the city's two-prong approach to improving the stock of housing, Steele continued, "we have housing rehabilitation and homeowner first-time buyer programs.

"Irvington has a large number of foreclosures that we want to activate. Make these properties available to people who want to live here and take care of the property. The previous administration and Housing and Urban Development (HUD) were not able to agree upon a procedure to handle blighted Irvington areas. As a consequence federal money earmarked for Irvington has gone unused: it's been frozen."

The mayor explained how his administration, by working with HUD, has been able to thaw some of the \$400,000 federal redevelopment money, and use it to hire housing inspectors, whose job it is to inspect the housing stock, fine building owners when property either is unkempt or is in disrepair, and to give the city a better estimate of the size and condition of its housing stock.

"We have many absentee landlords whose properties have deteriorated significantly. With the HUD money, we can put four inspectors on locating and identifying the properties and their owners. Because of the HUD money, we can offer the violators the opportunity of participating in a program that will help pay the cost of improving the property.

Urban league sees urban crisis

(Continued from page 1)

tential Presidential veto. Jacob says, "Without Federal safeguards to prevent job bias and to protect equal job opportunities for minorities and women, the very foundation of black economic improvement is severely undermined." This year, 1991, is already set to be a year of crisis and opportunity for the African American community.

A community that must mobilize to stop violence in its neighborhoods, get drugs off the streets and out of its schools, as well as to provide quality education and job training for its people. Jacob points out that a \$50 billion job training program is needed for a rallying point in the nation's high unemployment areas. A source of funding that must come from the federal government.

Getting trained and educated out of America's work force is the entire nation's problem. James K. Baker, Chairman, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, speaking before the Commonwealth Club of California, says, "If our industry is to be competitive and our national economy is to be viable, we absolutely must have a sophisticated, highly trained work

force." Baker believes, "Education is in our national quest for economic leadership."

While John Jacob's job training proposal is prime for putting current workers to work, we must not forget about the new generation. Baker says, "We absolutely must embark upon a draconian campaign to re-innovate our K-12 school systems." Since one can only hope that the individual states will start to take note of this serious education situation, his saying it is to can awaken some statesmen. The state of California's newly elected Republican governor, former U.S. Senator, Pete Wilson, was not at the California luncheon meeting. Obviously or he would not have angered the educators and children in his own state. The California State Department of Education said the new Republican governor's budget would cut \$1.4 billion loss of funds for K-12. The funds he offered, "cover only the 200,000 additional students expected to join the school system," says a spokeswoman for the Education Department. Delivering decent education and job training programs for the 1990s is what the Civil Rights Act of 1991 is all about for both business and African Americans.

Who can afford a war?

(Continued from page 3)

An agriculturally rich land ruled by war and its warrior leader claims the Sheikh. Latching onto Kuwait gives Iraq control of a third of Arab oil reserves. Riches which the Sheikh does not want Saddam to spend. Still some way must be found to spike up the U.S. and other developing countries economies. Even winning a war will not stoke up the

economic fires of the United States.

Conservative economist Walter E. Hoadley, formerly chief economist for Bank of America and now of the right-wing Hoover Institution think tank, admits the economy is to be at least flat for 1991, with an increase in unemployment up to 6.5%. He told an equally conservative luncheon audience at the first regular Friday luncheon meeting of the year

of the Commonwealth Club of California that the economy was in for some "corrective process." Personal advice to the audience was to "keep (their) economic seat belt fastened for two to three years." This longer than the regular recessionary period pointed out the excesses of "eight years" of attitudes that "someone could take (the) risk away in life" no doubt by riding in town on a horse! Baby boomers are to

blame, claims Hoadley, but we think white America in general should share some of the blame for the homeless and poverty on U.S. shores. Since inflation will continue to come down with or without higher oil prices due to a war, only getting more cash for investment is the central economic U.S. problem. Then again what was it that Saddam Hussein had in mind with his army - could it be money? Where??

(Continued from page 1)

Lilly Endowment Inc., The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, Knight Foundation, The Pew Charitable Trusts, James D. and Catherine T. MacArthur and Surda Foundations — in announcing this large infusion of private capital.

Freddie Mac announced a commitment to expand its secondary market resources in support of low-income rental housing. Representatives of the funding consortium joined representatives of the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), The Enterprise Foundation and Washington, D.C. Mayor Sharon Pratt Dixon and Boston Mayor Raymond Flynn to launch the National Community Development Initiative (NCDI), a multi-million dollar effort to increase housing and revitalization opportunities in some of America's most distressed neighborhoods.

"Over the past decade, community development corporations have taken the lead in building new housing and rebuilding neighborhoods," explains Peter Goldmark, president of The

Rockefeller Foundation. "It is our intention to provide these groups with greater resources to carry on their work." The group encourage other foundations, corporations and government entities to support what we believe is the best hope for America's future."

Robert C. Winters, chairman and chief executive officer of The Prudential, joined Goldmark in announcing the private sector's support for grass roots revitalization efforts. Also attending the press conference were John Mutz, president of Lilly Endowment Inc., Creed Black, president of Knight Foundation; Leland C. Brendsel, chairman and CEO, Freddie Mac; James Rouse, chairman, The Enterprise Foundation, and Paul Grogan, president LISC.

Funds are targeted for use in Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Chattanooga, Chicago, Cleveland, Columbus, Greater Miami, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Mo., Los Angeles, New York City, Newark, N.J., Oakland, San Francisco Bay area, Philadelphia, Portland, Ore., San Antonio, Seattle, St. Paul and Washington, D.C.

Grant crime summit

(Continued from page 1)

from the state, county and city. Our next objective is to meet with the leaders of the social service organizations that are responsible for the good and welfare of our citizens. The clergy is another important element, as are representatives from the many civic, ethnic and neighborhood groups that are a part of Newark's fabric. Also, we will include our educators and leaders from the business community, making sure to seek representation from small business owners; those who make daily contact with Newark residents; who are often victims, and yet may well be our first line of defense in a war against crime."

Grant said that he looked forward to a summit that would provoke some innovative thinking and activate a solid core of concerned citizens who can work in tandem with police, fire and rescue professionals to make neighborhoods more secure.

He said that he sees all of these separate groups working together harmoniously. "We are looking to an expanded, well

conditioned, professional police force augmented by well-trained auxiliary and special police who will provide a needed presence in many areas of the city and especially where multi-family housing complexes are underprotected and where seniors are vulnerable."

Grant noted that he was puzzled by Police Director Claude Coleman's remark that he (Grant) "wanted something magical to happen" (at the recent pre-summit meeting) and it didn't. He said, "I've been living in Newark long enough to know that this isn't the Land of Oz. The criminal elements that are holding Newark hostage can't be done away with by sloshing buckets of water on them. I'm fully aware that it will take a massive, cooperative effort on the part of every decent, law-abiding citizen of Newark to cause a turnaround. A crime-free Newark may not be achieved in my lifetime, but with cooperation between Director Coleman, the city's governing body, its leaders and every person who has a vision of a 'free' Newark, the time will come."

Buthelezi

(Continued from page 3)

regime had their own choice to run KwaZulu as a Bantustan.

Buthelezi is a decent family man and lives happily with his wife, Nurse Audrey Mzila, three sons and four daughters. He is a great organizer and leader of men. He is founder and president of INKATHA and several other national organizations. He is very efficient. He stakes his claim to

be included in the forthcoming constitutional negotiations. He cause that is his forte. He is a very consistent politician. He lived close to the ideas of famous men like Dr. Martin Luther King junior, Mahatma Gandhi and Nobel Peace Laureate Rev. Albert Luthuli former ANC President.

The anti-apartheid movement cannot afford to dispense with Mangosuthu Buthelezi....

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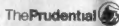
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By: Dr. Daniel W. Blue, Jr., Executive Director

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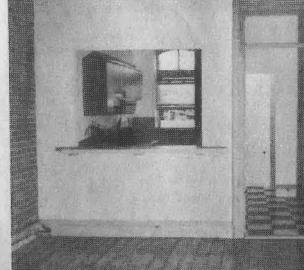
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CITY SPORTS

From the Side Lines

More on Doc, Jackson

by Fern Taylor

I usually like to delve into different topics each week, but all the brothers continue to run primarily about two topics — Mark Jackson and Dwight Gooden. So I'll talk about these ever-changing soap operas one more week before letting it go.

Let's talk about Mark Jackson, the New York Knicks point guard in Al Bianchi's and John McLeod's dog house. Jackson was fined \$41,000 and suspended four days for exercising his constitutional right of freedom of speech. He believes, and has said several times, that his second-string status to Maurice Cheeks had nothing to do with court performance, but more with his coach and his coach's boss.

That's old news — everyone and their Mama knew McLeod preferred Cheeks. And as a coach, McLeod has the right to put in whomever he wants, and Cheeks is no slouch at the point.

But isn't funny that the Knicks decided to fine Jackson on February 25th for remarks made 11 days earlier? A few days after they couldn't unload Jackson by the trading deadline? Then upon his return, punish him even more by making him the third string point guard?

In a word, Jackson's (mis)treatment is tacky, unprofessional — almost as if Bianchi and McLeod have a vendetta against Jackson. I'm glad the NBA Players' Association has filed a grievance on behalf of Jackson against the New York Knicks.

To compound matters for Jackson, the Knicks did well when he was gone. More motion was added to the offense, the defensive intensity increased a few notches, and the Knicks began to

win some games, even coming from a 19-1 deficit to stun San Antonio at the Garden last Thursday to increase their winning streak to four games.

The Knicks' performance seemed to lend credence to the belief of some that Jackson is a troublemaker and needs to be put in his place. The move definitely shook up the team, including Jackson, who needed to learn to let his play do the talking, night in and night out. But one hopes that Jackson does not hold a grudge against McLeod and Bianchi and that McLeod does not eternally blame the bench. He can still play the game.

It looks like Doc is going to give Frank Cashen more time to come to his senses.

Was it a good move for Gooden to decide to negotiate with the Mets throughout the year? Only time will tell. The move definitely shows the world that Gooden's ready to give the Mets all the time in the world to sign him before he becomes a free agent at the end of 1991.

But there has to be an attitude change in Mr. Cashen. He must recognize what Doc means to the Mets, both monetarily and competitively. He must realize what the going rate for the Dwight Goodens will be in the future. He must realize that his solitary actions against Strawberry and Gooden, in the name of saving baseball from escalating salaries, is ineffective and serves to make African-Americans wonder why can't the brothers be paid what they are worth.

I applaud Gooden for giving the Mets a chance when a lot of players wouldn't. Hopefully, Cashen will take note.

Fern scores 5 points

No — not points, that's pounds. 5 lbs. 11 oz. A beautiful baby girl was born to Thomasena and Fern Taylor on February 26, 1991 at 8:35 p.m. in Plainfield.

Her name is Tahish Jendaly-Hansani Taylor which means, Praise, Give Thanks Sweet Beautiful Princess.

Congratulations to you, Thomasena and Fern, and to your sweet and beautiful princess.

Karate champs advance

The PCAL Karate Team of Plainfield held promotion ceremonies of February 16 at the YWCA. Those promoted students were as follows:

Yellow Belt: Wafi Rose, Jennifer Ortiz, Tisa Galder, Jarrett Morgan, Jeron Crawford, Carlton Taylor, Erica Guzman, Beayance Franklin, Jojo Martinez, Jordan Hill, Tyrone Davis, Hugo Carvajal, and David Moore. **Orange Belt:** Adam Randolph, Warren Boyce, Roberto Ortiz, Mustafa Gary, and Mackyoly Carvajal. **Blue Belt:** Derrick White, Michael Martinez, Shane Martinez, Lei Tsung, Jeffrey Owens, James Chambers and Lateef Muhammad. **Green Belt:** Abdul Haneef Gary, and Thomas Southland. **Purple Belt:** Jason Douglas and Stephen Jordiah. **Brown Belt:** Jose Sanchez and Fernando Sanchez.

Congratulations to all!

QEA controversy continues

(Continued from page 7)
The court's discussion of overburden is in reference to providing a constitutionally protected right to "thorough and efficient" education.

Nonetheless, because the court discussed tax overburden for the three urban districts and equity of education in the same paragraph, it now appears that equity in education cannot be achieved without also providing property tax relief at the same time.

Yet as some members of the legislature attacked QEA for nonproduction related reasons, advocates of quality and equity in education also recognized flaws in the bill.

Marilyn J. Morheuser of the Education Law Center, Inc., for example, since the enactment of QEA has been concerned about at least two constitutional defects. The first and perhaps most ominous problem with the enacted legislation is that it does not provide a time frame for achieving educational equity.

The second problem with QEA, according to Morheuser is that "under" the QEA... State data estimates for 1991-92 indicate that the Act actually increases the local revenues which must be raised in 21 of the 30 districts with which the Court is concerned. "This result," attorney Morheuser continues, "is contrary to the Court's assumption that the design of any new funding plan will consider the problem of municipal overburden in these poorer urban districts, and will provide funding which is consistent with the Court's assumption."

Hence, for Morheuser, central to the weakness of the QEA is its lack of a time table of short duration to achieve equality of funding and its continued property tax burden on poor urban districts.

Although of less than a countervailing weight, Morheuser also

saw QEA going further than the court had mandated in some areas. Though the court noted that state funded teachers' pension funds were counter-equilizing—"since richer districts receive a larger share of... contributions because they tend to have proportionately more and higher-paid teachers," she said, "the court did not find the funds unconstitutional."

The Lynch/Dalton bill, on the other hand, while significantly redistributing education equity money to property-tax relief, the bill made no effort to strengthen any of the weaknesses of the QEA.

Based upon a chart released by the New Jersey Department of Education (DOE) that uses June 1990 projections preQEA, QEA projected state aid and the Lynch/Dalton projections, Lynch/Dalton leaves the thirty special needs districts worse off than they would have been if QEA had never been enacted: \$432.6 million preQEA and \$284.2 million Lynch/Dalton. Newark, for example, would receive \$53.7 million preQEA and \$50.2 million Lynch/Dalton.

More importantly, given that QEA was enacted, if Lynch/Dalton replaced QEA the thirty special districts would lose \$243.8 million. Newark rather than receiving \$78.5 million under QEA would get \$28.3 million less; Paterson would lose \$40.4 million; and Jersey City, \$26.2 million.

Lynch/Dalton's impact on the spending disparity between poorest and the richest districts is even more foreboding. Over the first three years of Lynch/Dalton the disparity increases for six of the districts and remains negative for twenty-three of the remaining twenty-four districts.

Supporters of the Lynch/Dalton bill make two arguments. First, according to Senator Rice, tax payers in Newark, Orange,

East Orange, and Irvington will have to pay higher property tax rates "in order to pay for the last half of the 1990 school budget. Newark will have to raise \$6.1... Irvington, \$6.6... East Orange, \$7.5... Orange, \$4.3 million." Yet, as a result Lynch/Dalton these increases will be forestalled.

Second, as Senate President John A. Lynch argued in his January 17, 1991 testimony before the Senate Education Committee, the Lynch/Dalton bill "shifts \$450 million from the new income tax revenues and channels it back to municipalities where, by law, they will be required to use it to help lower property taxes."

The Doria/Bryan bill has the partial endorsement of the Education Law Center, which sees the bill as "legislation directly responsive to two major commands of the Court decree": funding which is certain every year and does not depend on local budgeting and taxing decisions; it assures parity between the poorest and the wealthiest districts.

For others what makes the bill attractive is a provision requiring the state to pick up the full cost of pension and social security for all districts for fiscal years 1992 and 1993 and tax relief of \$200 million, which is less than the \$400 under Lynch/Dalton but is substantial nonetheless.

In conclusion, as one long time observer of Newark education observed, "the educational future of the 250,000 children—80 percent black and Hispanic—who attend the schools of the thirty poorest urban districts of the state, rests in the hands of men and women whose alternatives to the court demand for equity in education has engendered three bills each of which have shown an unwillingness on the part of the legislature to provide thorough and efficient education to poor nonwhite children, unless it can be done at no cost to the rest of New Jersey."

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Meal at the regular price,
get the same meal for

99¢*

Large Sandwich Meal includes:
Big Mac®, McDLT®, Quarter Pounder®
with Cheese, or McChicken® Sandwich, plus
Large Fries and Soft Drink in a 21 oz. cup.

Offer good at participating McDonald's in Metro NY, Northern & Central NJ, & Fairfield Co. CT. One coupon redeemable per large sandwich meal, per person, per visit. Not good in conjunction with any other offer. Current prices and participation subject to independent operator decision. *Plus tax. Prices may vary. Cash value 1/20 of 1¢. *Weight before cooking 4 oz. (113.4 grams).

Offer valid Now thru Sat., Mar. 16, 1991

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WEEK 2

Buy any Large Sandwich
Meal at the regular price,
get the same meal for

99¢*

Large Sandwich Meal includes:
Big Mac®, McDLT®, Quarter Pounder®
with Cheese, or McChicken® Sandwich, plus
Large Fries and Soft Drink in a 21 oz. cup.

Offer good at participating McDonald's in Metro NY, Northern & Central NJ, & Fairfield Co. CT. One coupon redeemable per large sandwich meal, per person, per visit. Not good in conjunction with any other offer. Current prices and participation subject to independent operator decision. *Plus tax. Prices may vary. Cash value 1/20 of 1¢. *Weight before cooking 4 oz. (113.4 grams).

Offer valid Sun., Mar. 17-Sat., Mar. 23, 1991

© 1991 McDonald's Corp.

WEEK 3

Buy any Large Sandwich
Meal at the regular price,
get the same meal for

99¢*

Large Sandwich Meal includes:
Big Mac®, McDLT®, Quarter Pounder®
with Cheese, or McChicken® Sandwich, plus
Large Fries and Soft Drink in a 21 oz. cup.

Offer good at participating McDonald's in Metro NY, Northern & Central NJ, & Fairfield Co. CT. One coupon redeemable per large sandwich meal, per person, per visit. Not good in conjunction with any other offer. Current prices and participation subject to independent operator decision. *Plus tax. Prices may vary. Cash value 1/20 of 1¢. *Weight before cooking 4 oz. (113.4 grams).

Offer valid Sun., Mar. 24-Sun., Mar. 31, 1991

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BONUS

99¢*

Filet-O-Fish®
Sandwich

Offer good at participating McDonald's in Metro NY, Northern & Central NJ, & Fairfield Co. CT. One coupon redeemable per Filet-O-Fish® Sandwich, per person, per visit. Not good in conjunction with any other offer. Current prices and participation subject to independent operator decision. *Plus tax. Prices may vary. Cash value 1/20 of 1¢.

Offer valid Now thru Sat., Mar. 31, 1991

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WEEK 1

99¢*

Egg McMuffin®
or any Breakfast
Sandwich

Breakfast Sandwiches include: Egg
McMuffin®, Sausage McMuffin®, Sausage
McMuffin® with Egg, Bacon Egg & Cheese
Biscuit, Sausage Biscuit, Sausage & Egg Biscuit.

Offer good at participating McDonald's in Metro NY, Northern & Central NJ, & Fairfield Co. CT. One coupon redeemable per sandwich, per person, per visit. Not good in conjunction with any other offer. Current prices and participation subject to independent operator decision. *Plus tax. Prices may vary. Cash value 1/20 of 1¢.

Offer valid Now thru Sat., Mar. 16, 1991

© 1991 McDonald's Corp.

WEEK 2

99¢*

Egg McMuffin®
or any Breakfast
Sandwich

Breakfast Sandwiches include: Egg
McMuffin®, Sausage McMuffin®, Sausage
McMuffin® with Egg, Bacon Egg & Cheese
Biscuit, Sausage Biscuit, Sausage & Egg Biscuit.

Offer good at participating McDonald's in Metro NY, Northern & Central NJ, & Fairfield Co. CT. One coupon redeemable per sandwich, per person, per visit. Not good in conjunction with any other offer. Current prices and participation subject to independent operator decision. *Plus tax. Prices may vary. Cash value 1/20 of 1¢.

Offer valid Sun., Mar. 17-Sat., Mar. 23, 1991

© 1991 McDonald's Corp.

WEEK 3

99¢*

Egg McMuffin®
or any Breakfast
Sandwich

Breakfast Sandwiches include: Egg
McMuffin®, Sausage McMuffin®, Sausage
McMuffin® with Egg, Bacon Egg & Cheese
Biscuit, Sausage Biscuit, Sausage & Egg Biscuit.

Offer good at participating McDonald's in Metro NY, Northern & Central NJ, & Fairfield Co. CT. One coupon redeemable per sandwich, per person, per visit. Not good in conjunction with any other offer. Current prices and participation subject to independent operator decision. *Plus tax. Prices may vary. Cash value 1/20 of 1¢.

Offer valid Sun., Mar. 24-Sun., Mar. 31, 1991

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